

Message Text

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54

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIEP-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 AGR-05 FRB-03 XMB-02

L-02 OES-03 CU-02 STR-04 H-02 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06

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R 230753Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9630

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECON, EEWHT, EFIN, XG, US

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DAVID ROCKEFELLER

EUR/EE FOR AMBASSADOR HERZ

COMMERCE FOR BEWT

REF: VIENNA 4294

1. DURING COURSE OF CALL MAY 19 ON CHARGE BY CHASE

MANHATTAN BANK OFFICIALS, MR. OSWALD JUDAR, CHASE VP IN

VIENNA WHO ACCOMPANIED DAVID ROCKEFELLER ON LATTER'S TRIP

TO SOFIA LATE APRIL, DESCRIBED IMPRESSIONS HE RECEIVED

DURING ROCKEFELLER'S CALLS ON STATE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TODOR

ZHIVKOV, VICE PREMIER TANO TSOLOV, AND FOREIGN TRADE

MINISTER IVAN NEDEV.

2. ALL THREE INCLUDING ZHIVKOV TOLD ROCKEFELLER THEY FELT

IT POSSIBLE SOME ACCOMMODATIONS COULD BE WORKED OUT SO THAT

SOME FORM OF TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN U.S. AND BULGARIA

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COULD BE REACHED. THIS WOULD BE STEP TOWARD NORMALIZING

TRADE RELATIONS, AND IT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED UNDER THE EXISTING U.S. TRADE REFORM ACT DESPITE OBJECTIONABLE JACKSON-VANNIK AMENDMENT SINCE BULGARIA HAS NO IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS. BULGARIANS INDICATED GREAT FLEXIBILITY ON FORM SUCH AGREEMENT COULD TAKE AND POINTED TO DRAFT SUBMITTED BY BULGARIA PRIOR POPOV'S VISIT LAST SEPTEMBER AS POSSIBLE BASIS FOR AN AGREEMENT. THEY ASKED ROCKEFELLER TO UTILIZE HIS CHANNELS TO ENCOURAGE U.S. RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL.

3. DISCUSSIONS OF AGREEMENTS ALSO EXTENDED TO FIELDS OF CULTURE, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY, ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT CLEAR TO JUDAR WHETHER THESE WERE TO BE SEPARATE AGREEMENTS OR ONE SINGLE AGREEMENT. IT SEEMED APPARENT TO ROCKEFELLER GROUP, HOWEVER, THAT BULGARIANS WOULD LIKE TO MOVE FORWARD IN DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH U.S., WERE FLEXIBLE AS TO DETAILS OF ANY AGREEMENT, AND WERE AWAITING RESPONSE FROM U.S. SIDE. CHASE GROUP WAS INFORMED BY EMBASSY THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS PRIVATELY STUDYING BULGARIAN DRAFT AGREEMENTS.

4. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH FIRST DEP MIN FOREIGN TRADE ANDREY LUKANOV, ROCKEFELLER WAS INFORMED BULGARIA IS PRESENTLY DRAFTING LAW WHICH WOULD PERMIT FOREIGN BUSINESS FIRMS TO STATION REPRESENTATIVES IN SOFIA. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS, DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THE FUTURE SOFIA CITY CENTER CALL FOR ERECTION OF A TRADE CENTER, APPARENTLY ON ORDER OF THOSE IN MOSCOW AND WARSAW.

5. CHASE OFFICIAL STATED THAT THE PURPOSE OF PRESENT VISIT WAS TO FOLLOWUP ON ROCKEFELLER VISIT AND TO DISCUSS WITH BULGARIAN OFFICIALS POSSIBLE FINANCING OF A \$20 MILLION R.J. REYNOLDS VIRGINIA TOBACCO GROWING AND PROCESSING PROJECT.
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